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PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Hubscher, et al.

Serial No. 09/974,913

Group: 1641

Filed: 10/12/01

Examiner: Nguyen

For: A METHOD FOR THE VISUAL DETECTION OF SPECIFIC ANTIBODIES IN HUMAN SERUM BY THE USE OF LATERAL FLOW ASSAYS

The Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir or Madam:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 23, 2003. A one month fee for the Petition for Extension of Time has been paid

First, please note that all correspondence should go to the address of the undersigned attorney, said address being:

2107 Hounds Run Place
Silver Spring, Maryland 20906

Also, the undersigned requests an interview with the examiner.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please see attached sheet

IN THE DRAWINGS

The drawings will be amended following a Notice of Allowance.

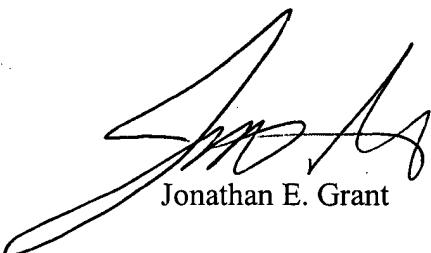
RESPONSE

Applicants have amended the claims in question to address the questions raised by the examiner. As no new matter has been added, Applicants believe that the response can be accepted and considered after final. Applicants believe that claims are self explanatory, in that the invention is basically described by reading claim 27

Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to page 13, lines 21 through page 14, line 12. This section provides allows for the amendment to claim 1 and for the addition of claim 27. There is no other teaching of incorporating at the sample pad a reacting substance that will bind IgG such that it will slow down the IgG so that the activity of IgM and IgA class antibodies to the analyte are not eliminated or decreased.

The application is now in condition for allowance. Please call the undersigned at (301) 603-9071 if you have any questions or comments. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Jonathan E. Grant

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